

# new england **UFO** study group

FOUNDED 1957

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## NEWSLETTER

Volume I No. 4 Page 1

### RECENT SIGHTINGS

#### CHELMSFORD, MASS. SIGHTING

On October 11, 1976 a couple from N.H. were traveling north on Rt. 3 in Chelmsford when they saw a UFO. The following was taken directly from a sighting form that Paul Kasluskki sent to the witnesses and then sent to the Newsletter.

FIGURE I "Our first sighting was point 1, for approximately 5 minutes. Then it appeared to move away to point 2 and it was very small to our vision. Then it returned to point 3 where it turns off its lights for approximately 15 seconds. Then reappeared. Many other people stopped on Rt. 3 to see it. Some turned off to get closer. Police said there were a couple hundred reports."

FIGURE II "Portion of craft above line A and below line B was not visible. The only visible part was the continuous row of windows encircling the craft. The inside was a steady white light and the rotation of the window posts gave a flickering appearance. It rotated at a fairly slow RPM."

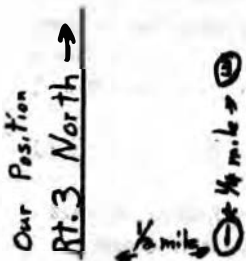
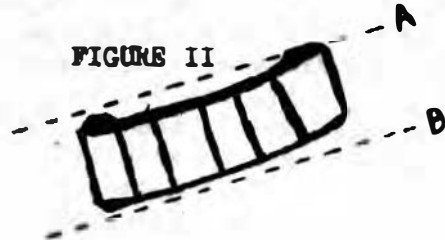


FIGURE I



At our last meeting, Joe Nyman and Ed Fogg gave us their results of a UFO sighting in Wrentham Mass. which occurred in October, 1976.

#### PHILLIPSTON, MASS. SIGHTING

(UPI)- A mysterious "fireball" lit up a swampy, wooded area near this central Massachusetts town on December 18, 1976. An extensive search failed to turn up any sign of the incendiary object which was sighted about a mile east of town by firemen, a state trooper and a number of civilians. Fire Chief Gordon Tallman said he and other firemen watched the object for more than an hour as they searched for what they thought was a fire in the woods. He said they never got close to the object and a helicopter search later failed to find any sign of a fire. A couple of people claimed they saw a glow like the sun was coming up, but it's kind of cloudy and the sun wasn't visible, Tallman said. One woman said she thought it was the sun until she realized it was rising west of her. Tallman said he thought the object was an airplane or something that had gone down in that area, but checks with the Federal Aviation Administration failed to turn up any reports of missing flights. State police said they started receiving reports of a fireball on the ground, shooting flames and embers up into the air.

Jules Vaillancourt, A MUFON investigator, investigated this report. He found that during the next few weeks, people in the Phillipston area were reporting airplanes, stars and the moon as UFOs. This first well publicized report was unexplainable. But the mini flap that followed was basically a result of heightened interest of the local residents rather than an increase in actual UFO activity. I (Dave Downs) was experiencing basically the same situation in my local area as you will find out by reading on.

#### NORTON, MASS. SIGHTING

On Friday, December 17, 1976 at approximately 3:15 P.M., I received a phone call

from my wife at the school where I teach. She told me that the Norton Police dispatcher had just called to inform me of a UFO sighting which had just occurred on Dean St. Norton. This is within a mile of the school. I grabbed a note book and left right away. I was to find out that there were two separate witnesses.

WITNESS #1 James T. called a local radio station WARA. A newsman then called the Norton Police who investigated. The following is taken from a tape recording of James T. made around 8:00 P.M. that night.

"I was in the kitchen here and I finished my cigarette. I walked to the front door, which is facing west, looked out, and noticed an object rising from the field across from the house here. No reason I noticed it really. I just happened to look at it and I thought it was heading towards me. Actually it wasn't, it was rising upward. It reached a height, I'd say, maybe 500 feet or more and I knew it wasn't a regular object. I went to my closet which is in the other room about 13 feet away or 15 feet away. I got the camera, a Polaroid, Pronto, opened the door, the front door, where I first seen the object. It was tree top level now... snapped the picture... Just as I snapped the picture, the film came out of the Pronto automatically. I went back inside. When I turned around to see the object again it was disappearing behind the trees again going towards Attleboro. That's when I lost sight of it and was concerned about the film. The first reaction was, I didn't know... well I knew it was something, you know, unusual and I was scared. Now before the sighting I had no emotion at all. I had no feelings at all. After the sighting, I was very nervous, didn't know what to do. After the film was developed, I called WARA and I asked Charles Verdy what to do about a UFO sighting. He told me to contact Monitor East in Providence and I couldn't get through. That's when he notified the police. The police came down with the fire department. We all searched the area afterwards and didn't find anything. The object itself was metallic gray. I would estimate the size to be 200 to 300 feet in diameter. I'm pretty sure it was round and no noise, no lights, no other unusual ? from it. And I lost sight of it when I took the picture. I looked away from it for a second. When I looked back up at it again, it was heading towards Attleboro. I had no chance to get another picture."

WITNESS #II Dick O. had called his wife on his C.B. radio, which is in his car, to tell her of his experience. She called the police department.

Owen told ~~him~~ <sup>her</sup> the flying saucer had an outside ring that was spinning about the center, which did not turn as it moved forward. One person who encountered Owen shortly after the flying saucer flew over his car said the Lincoln St. resident's face was as white as a sheet.

When I arrived, I was shown a photograph that was not that impressive to me at the time. The two witnesses answered questions put forth by several people present including myself. It was through this questioning that I learned that the two witnesses were not friends and had not known of each other's sighting until after the fact. Both seemed to be excited but I could detect no excessive emotions or reactions from either of the witnesses at that time.

After getting the witnesses' names and addresses and asking if I could interview them later, I turned my attention on the swampy, wooded area from which the first witness had felt the object had risen. I was joined by Ethel Rogers, a member of our group. She had also been notified by a policeman. We tried to walk into the area. There was a lot of underbrush in the way and I was not sure the ice would hold our weight. So after about 20 minutes of carefully looking the edge of the woods over we decided it would be wiser to come back dressed for the purpose.

We walked back, and found to our surprise, that everyone had left. The witness (Jim) was standing at his door. We went over to ask if we could question him some more. His face was reddish and he appeared to be in an excited condition.

After listening to his story and asking more questions, we all agreed to meet in one hour to make another attempt to search the swampy wooded area. It was dark before we tried to search the area again. After going to the edge of the woods, we returned for a flashlight. We walked about 200 ft. into the woods before giving up that course of action for the night.

I returned at sun rise and searched the same area for about an hour before I was

to meet Ethel, Jim and his wife, June. We all drove down into a cleared area about a half mile through the woods in the direction Jim said he had seen the object rise into the air. We were unable to find anything unusual.

I am planning to give a slide presentation about the out come of this and other sightings in my area at our July meeting.

The two weeks following this sighting were hectic ones for Ethel and me. A Dec. 18th article in the Attleboro Sun and a Dec. 24th article in the Norton Patriot written about this sighting evidently aroused the interest of people in our area. UFO reports started to come in about once every other day for about two weeks. Ethel has a police radio and was very helpful by letting me know about sightings soon after they occurred. Ethel followed up many reports which she reported to the group at our last meeting. She was so busy with reports that she was out investigating on New Years Eve!

#### A MINI UFO WAVE IN ATTLEBORO AREA ?

The Attleboro Sun carried 5 UFO articles during the next 3 weeks.

#### ARTICLE 1 December 23, 1976 IT WASN'T SANTA THIS TIME...

After a discussion about prank UFO calls received around Christmas time, the article goes on to say... "And that's not the way Mark Beauchaine, an 18-year-old local man sees it. With two other friends, and the parents of one, Beauchaine says he sighted a UFO about 7:45 P.M. Wednesday from a Brandon Road driveway. Don Husey, 17, and the driver, stopped to grab his camera and then the three took off in pursuit of the object, heading in the direction of Providence. Keeping up with the traffic on I-95, said Beauchaine, the UFO - described as a disc, with circling white lights and a red light at the top of a golf tee-like projection-remained in sight. They exited at Atwells Ave. in Providence, and continued on to Broadway, where the object flew toward them at a low level. Pictures were taken, says Beauchaine, but haven't been developed yet. The object turned about and headed north. The North Attleboro trio again followed it but lost sight when it headed west. Returning to Husey's Brandon Road home, they stopped in to discuss the experience. And when they left the house, they were again treated to a brief sighting." Other people reported the same object that night from the same general area. If you remember, I reported on this case at our last meeting. An advertising plane was in the area that night and I spoke with two people who believed they were watching a UFO until the plane got close enough to read the message.

#### ARTICLE 2 December 28, 1976 RECENT AREA UFO SIGHTINGS SEEN AS PART OF 'PEAK IN ACTIVITY'

This unfortunate article was a spur of the moment telephone interview with me. It had been made before I had a chance to track down a lot of rumors. The result was an article which included nine recent sightings. All but two have since been identified as planes, stars or misinformation. The night this article was published, residents who lived on Maple Street in Norton felt they saw several UFOs at about 7:00 P.M. I was on Oak Hill (the highest elevation for miles around) in Attleboro at that time, looking for UFOs. I saw nothing. Many people say UFOs can direct light so that only chosen individuals can see them. This may be something like a personal or spiritual experience. Perhaps this was the case that night or was I looking in the wrong direction?.....or were we looking at the same lights which I interpreted as planes while others interpreted the lights as UFOs?

#### ARTICLE 3 December 31, 1976 AERIAL TRAFFIC SPURS UFO TALK

"The Attleboros - Strange lights in the skies later attributed to circling aircraft, prompted a number of phone calls to the area police and news media early Thursday night. Attleboro, North Attleboro, Norton and Mansfield police all reported getting calls from people who saw the lights in the sky. In Norton a few calls from the Harvey Street area prompted police to send out two cruisers. The officers could not identify the lights at first and for a while it seemed like there was a real mystery in the sky. But Norton police called Logan Airport in Boston and found that a massive aerial traffic jam had that facility putting planes in holding patterns all the way back to this area. The aircraft were in circling patterns. The information was quickly spread to other departments in the area to tell concerned callers."



ARTICLE 4 January 3, 1977 LOCAL UFO SIGHTINGS HAVE UFO EXPERT 'FLYING'

This article discusses Mr. Dick St. Germain (who is a member of our group) and his UFO group named Monitor East from Providence R.I. It mentioned recent UFO activity and one new sighting which occurred on Sunday, January 2, 1977. This is the sighting I briefly referred to in the last Newsletter and Ethel Rogers gave us a first hand account of at our last meeting.

ARTICLE 5 January 1977 SPEAKING OF UFOs...

"Do you believe in UFOs? Just that the question can be asked shows how little people understand the subject. Of course you have to believe in UFOs. As a matter of fact, belief has nothing to do with it. They exist. A UFO is an unidentified flying object--that's all. It's just something up in the sky that you can't figure out. Some of the things "UFO" does not mean are: flying saucer, space craft, invasion from outer space and a sleigh pulled by eight tiny reindeer. A UFO is no more a flying saucer than an unidentified walking object is a man from outer space. Do you believe in UFOs? This does not mean that a UFO could not be a flying saucer. It is just that a UFO does not necessarily have to be from outer space. By definition we don't know what it is. This confusion of terms would be insignificant except for the fact that it points up the basic fallacy in the argument by people who believe we are being visited by people from outer space. Their arguments usually run something like this: You can't explain it, therefore it is a spaceship from another planet containing intelligent beings who are investigating our planet for reasons they want to keep to themselves. A student who flunked elementary philosophy could see the jump in logic here. Just because there are unexplained lights or objects in the sky does not mean there are flying saucers up there. The fallacy is based on the belief that our scientists already know basically how the universe works and now all they have to do is refine their theories before we know absolutely everything. If basic theories do not explain a thing, that thing must be supernatural or from another planet, according to this fallacious reasoning. History shows that at any given time people always think their science explains at least the basic workings of their environment. Anything else is considered supernatural. In the Middle Ages the magnetic compass was called an instrument of the devil because the science of that time could not explain why it always pointed north. It took people with clear thinking to look beyond the simplistic devil theory and find a logical explanation that did not exist in their previous knowledge of the world. There is no doubt that people have seen strange unexplained and unidentified objects in the sky. And probably they can not be explained by our current knowledge of the world but that does not mean they are not natural parts of our environment. We look back at medieval science and laugh at how primitive it was and we see how they could believe devil theories. It won't be long before people will do the same with the flying saucer theory."

## SIGHTINGS REPORTED TO US AT OUR OCTOBER MEETING

AUGUST 11, 1976 A UFO was seen from Rt. 9 and Rt. 114 in New Hampshire. It was described as being the size of 3 or 4 football fields. The UFO displayed some sort of strobe light.

SEPTEMBER 7, 1976 Ipswich Police saw an object that witnesses felt was a UFO.

OCTOBER-----1976 Two people in Woburn watched a UFO through their binoculars and a telescope between 9 P.M. and 2 A.M. This object was also seen by police in the area.

OCTOBER-----1976 Members of our group saw a UFO in the Bellingham area over their parking lot.

## WOODSTOCK, CONN. SIGHTING

The following November 10, 1976 sighting was reported in the February 6th issue of the Worcester Sunday Telegram. This was part of a full page article about UFOs. The reporter got a lot of his information from an interview with the Benjaminsens.

"Susan Nasiatka is a 17 year old from Union, Conn. She was driving on Rt. 171 in Woodstock, Conn. at about 8:20 on Nov. 10, 1976 when she had the following sighting. The moon was full, lighting up the clouds. As I was driving, I saw two sets of lights ahead, above the trees. Perhaps the headlights of a car coming downhill? No, she said. The road is level there, and they were definitely above the trees. As the lights, which did not come down toward the ground but seemed to continue in a level path, came over the

area near Miss Nasiatka, she stopped her car to get a good look. There were two objects, both perfectly round, with four lights on each one. The lights were blinking, and the objects seemed to be just barely moving, very slowly. Then, final development, while they were floating by, one of them tilted towards me, so I could see it edgewise. She said, There was a lit-up strip of what seemed to be windows. Once I saw that, the windows, it shocked me. I saw that there were no other people or cars around, so I got back in the car and drove off fast.

That encounter didn't end the night's UFO activity for the young Connecticut resident. I picked up my girl friend before going to the police, and she was laughing about the whole story. After I made my report, while we were driving back to Union, we saw what looked like the same set of lights, the same two things in the sky. That got my friend and she stopped laughing about it. When I first saw those things, I was scared. But now, I'd give anything to see something like that again."

#### ATTLEBORO, MASS. SIGHTING

On December 19, 1976 while traveling through Attleboro, two witnesses saw an object, the size of a 50¢ piece held at arms length, go down behind trees. Joe Nyman and Ed Fogg are investigating this report and may have more information at our next meeting. This case was the first current sighting to be reported to us on the new short sighting form that you all got in the mail with the last newsletter. If you hear of a sighting, let us know about it.

#### WORCESTER, MASS. SIGHTING

The following incident was reported in the Worcester Sunday Telegram. "I'm not saying I saw a flying saucer. I saw an unidentified object, Misale, a product engineer for Wyman-Gordon Co., said about the night of December 22, 1976. He and his wife were driving along the Worcester Expressway near the Central Street exit when they saw a stream of lights, mostly white with a red one at either end and one in the middle. The lights were over the central part of Worcester when the Misales spotted them. I thought it was a blimp at first. It was big. But it moved too fast for a blimp, Misale said. They stopped their car in the breakdown lane of the expressway to watch it, and noticed about a half-dozen other cars stopped on the expressway. We shut off our engine to see if we could hear it, but we couldn't. It went over us and continued over Grafton Street, Misale said. He reported his sighting to the Telegram and I sure got razzed at work, he said. He had heard the suggestion that the object may have been a small plane towing a lighted advertisement for a Connecticut racetrack. I don't believe it Misale said, I don't think an advertisement would look like what I saw. It was too big, and moved too fast. He and his wife talked for a while about the sighting afterwards, without being able to settle on what it may have been. It's great to see something like that. I'll probably never see it again, though, he said. Would he like to, if the chance came up? Sure. Even closer. Then maybe I'd find out what it was."

#### MARLBORO, MASS. SIGHTING

On January 4, 1977 at 7:45 P.M. two silent UFO's were sighted by two children, aged 9 and 6, and their mother. The mother said that her daughter drew her attention to the objects that seemed to be following each other. They were red, orange and had white blinking lights. The objects were bright and just above the trees.

#### WAKEFIELD, NEW HAMPSHIRE - MYSTERY OBJECT

Something mysterious and reportedly radioactive- fell into a pond in Wakefield, N.H. January 9, 1977. This event certainly helped start this year with a bang. It's interesting how a small object like this one attracts so much public attention while many well documented sightings of UFO's go virtually unnoticed by the general public.

#### WESTWOOD (AND OTHER TOWNS) SIGHTING

Stella Lansing and Arnette Strappani said they saw an amber colored UFO on their way home from our last UFO meeting on January 24, 1977. They said that the object appeared to turn inside out while they watched it.

#### KINGSTON, NEW HAMPSHIRE SIGHTING

At present, all we know about this sighting is that on February 3, 1977 an individual in Kingston, N.H. saw a maneuvering UFO through his windshield. Larry Rizzo, an investigator for MUFON, is investigating this case.



## WEST SPRINGFIELD, MASS. SIGHTING

A woman from West Springfield, Mass. saw a cigar shaped UFO on February 9, 1977. She said she saw a satellite object hovering around the larger cigar shaped, blue, object. The cigar shaped object sent out a beam of light. The satellite object and the beam of light were withdrawn into the cigar shaped object.

## SCITUATE, MASS. SIGHTING

Steve Putnam is getting details about this sighting. A boy and his grandmother saw this UFO on February 9, 1977 in Scituate, Mass.

## WESTBORO, MASS. SIGHTING

A 15 year old boy and his parents saw a triangular shaped object in Westboro about 12:42 A.M. on February 26, 1977. This orange object changed shape to a circular object and then disappeared. Joe Nymans is investigating this report and may have more information at our next meeting.

## MOULTONBORO, NEW HAMPSHIRE SIGHTING

This is from a New Hampshire Newspaper article-the source is unknown. "A ball of fire headed for Moultonboro was reported at 8:20 Tuesday night (March 1, 1977) to State Police by a Tamworth resident. The Unidentified Flying Object was spotted in the Sandwich area also. It was described as an object which kept changing colors. The lights on it suddenly went out, just as though someone had flicked a light switch. And then, beginning as a pin head, the lights grew larger and larger, it was noted. Others watched through field glasses and saw what seemed like other objects which kept landing and taking off of the original one. It was really weird, one spectator commented. The UFO was also discussed on Citizen Band radio.

## OTHER SIGHTINGS

On March 21, 1977....(AP)"A pair of diamond-shaped objects trailing streams of blue danced above the skies of Southern California. Seven airmen at March Air Force Base, two Los Angeles County Sheriff's helicopter crewmen and two California Highway Patrolmen were among those who witnessed the erratic early morning display. The helicopter deputies spotted the unidentified flying objects Monday night in the Wittier Hills area, about 25 miles northeast of downtown Los Angeles. They said they saw a bright orange light. They tried to follow it but it sped away out of sight, the officers said. The airmen were next to sight the objects, traveling at high speeds, south to north, at approximately 3,000 feet, said Maj. Brian Daly, information officer at March Air Force Base...The objects, glowing silver with a blue stream behind them, were observed for about 15 seconds, Daly said, at 3:28 A.M. The objects did not show up on radar, Air Force spokesmen said. Then, they were spotted nearly 50 miles away in Firestone by two patrolmen."

Monitor East recieved information about recent sightings in Tiverton, R.I. and Fall River, Mass. We hope to have more details soon.

## MR. BRENT RAYNES, OUR SPEAKER AT APRIL MEETING

Brent Raynes, born April 7, 1952, became infected by the UFO bug back in 1967 after reading the late Frank Edwards book Flying Saucers--Serious Business. After that, he began reading all available literature. He became one of those teenaged UFO buffs and churned out his own mimeographed newsletter entitled Sauceritis from about 1969 until 1972. His UFOlogical activities were somewhat interrupted in July 1972 when he went into the U.S. Navy. In October 1974, he was discharged from active service. Thus in 1975 and 1976 Raynes spent weeks and months at a time on the road investigating eyewitness reports in states like Ohio, Pennsylvania, Tennessee, Indiana, etc. Raynes is primarily interested in the close-range UFO encounters, particularly those involving entity aspects.

Dear Members,

I'd like to thank Andrew Galligan, who gave a nice presentation at our January meeting, and all of you who sent in reports for the newsletter. Keep the reports coming in. You can send news articles, book reports, etc. to Mr. David Downs, 632 Oak Hill Ave., Attleboro, Mass. 02703 or give me a call at 222-7326.

We have alot of good meetings coming up. ( read meeting notice) We also have interesting articles for our next newsletter. Our next newsletter will include MORE FACTS ON THE BERMUDA TRIANGLE by Andrew Galligan and a REPORT ON THE EXTRATERRESTRIAL CONFERENCE by Joe Nymans. We will soon have a taped interview of Gordon Cooper, on the Mike Douglas Show. He is an astronaut who believes UFOs are real and he's investigating a contactee case.

Dave Downs  
President